UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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QUALCOMM INCORPORATED
5775 MOREHOUSE DR.
SAN DIEGO, CA 92121

EXAMINER
TAYLOR, BARRY W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2617	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/08/2008	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

us-docketing@qualcomm.com
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PTOL-90A (Rev. 04/07)

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
 Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>10 September 2008</u>.

2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.   2b) ☐ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1,2,4-11,13-16 and 18-22</u> is/are pending in the application.

   4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) <u>1,2,4-11,13-16 and 18-22</u> is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>08 January 2007</u> is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

   a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

   1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

   2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

   3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

   * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of

the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of

the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein

were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation

under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was

not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to

consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g)

prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

1.   Claims 1-2, 4-11, 13-16 and 18-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Ahn et al (6,681,111 hereinafter Ahn) found in co-pending application

10/077,556 now abandoned in view of Murtagh et al (2004/0133623 hereinafter

Murtagh).

Regarding claim 1. Ahn teaches a general global gateway, between a first

network and a second network (see item 300 in figures 1 and 3 wherein a general

global gateway is located between a first and second network and used for

authenticating the mobile, which is currently registered to GSM network, but visiting a

CDMA system), configured to support communications between the first network and

the second network (see CDMA and GSM figure 1) to enable a mobile station

subscribed in the first network to communicate using the second network (title, abstract,

col. 2 lines 36 – 46, col. 3 lines 62-65, col. 4 lines 17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col. 6 lines

32-54, col. 12 lines 39-47), comprising:

a database configured to store an identity of the mobile station (see 300 figure 1,

col. 2 lines 36-46, col. 3 lines 62-65, col. 4 lines 17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col. 6 lines

32-54, col. 12 lines 39-47); and

a logic unit configured to execute program logic to obtain authentication

information from the first network based on the identity of the mobile station (see 300

figure 1, col. 2 lines 36-46, col. 3 lines 62-65, col. 4 lines 17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col.

6 lines 32-54, col. 12 lines 39-47) and further configured to determine whether

authentication parameters from the MS satisfy GGG authentication criteria (see 300

figure 1, col. 2 lines 36-46, col. 3 lines 62-65, col. 4 lines 17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col.

6 lines 32-54, col. 12 lines 39-47).

According to Applicants, Ahn only shows a CDMA terminal with a GSM SIM card

to provide roaming access to a GSM service subscriber in the CDMA area but does not

show using the CDMA network for this purpose (see Applicants remark at the bottom of

page 7, paper dated 2/28/08).

Murtagh teaches using a virtual mobile node to allow CDMA operator the ability

to offer services to subscribers of GSM network (abstract, paragraphs 0002, 0031).

Murtagh teaches the virtual mobile node (see VM in figures 3 and 4) connected to an

iterworking gateway (see MAR in figure 3 and 4) wherein the virtual mobile node

contains both GSM HLR and MSC functions (see figures 3 and 4, paragraphs 0033 and

0041) which means that CDMA operator can offer services to subscribers of the GSM

network (paragraph 0033) and visa versa (paragraph 0034).

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

the invention was made to modify the gateway as taught by Ahn to include both GSM

HLR and MSC functions as taught by Murtagh in order to allow CDMA operators the

ability to offer its subscribers SMS messages from other mobile users equipped with

different technology handsets as taught by Murtagh (paragraph 0031).

Regarding claim 2. Ahn further shows a location register configured to store a

location of the MS to enable a call incoming to the MS from the first network to route the

incoming call to the MS through the GGG (see 300 figure 1, col. 2 lines 36-46, col. 3

lines 62-65, col. 4 lines 17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col. 6 lines 32-54, col. 12 lines 39-47).

Murtagh also show using location register so incoming calls from first network can be

routed through the gateway (see VM and MAR in figures 3 and 4, paragraphs 0033 and

0041).

Regarding claim 4. Ahn teaches a service center configured to send and receive

messages to and from the second network according to a message format of the

service center (i.e. Ahn describes a short message service (SMS) of the roaming

service where the IRGS functions as the SMC/short message center --- col. 12 lines 39-

42). Murtagh teaches a virtual mobile node has a pseudo HLR and a pseudo MSC

which functions as a service center to transfer messages between an entity in a foreign

network having a different technology to an SMS entity connected to the local network

wherein both pseudo HLR and pseudo MSC are both located in the home network but

operate with the protocol of the foreign network (abstract).

Regarding claim 5. Ahn teaches a second location register configured to store

location of the MS to enable a call outgoing from the MS to the first network to route the

outgoing call from the MS through the GGG (see 300 figure 1, col. 2 lines 36-46, col. 3

lines 62-65, col. 4 lines 17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col. 6 lines 32-54, col. 12 lines 39-47).

Murtagh also teaches using location registers (see paragraphs 0033 and 0041, see

virtual mobile node item 22 in figure 4 containing location registers so GMS and CDMA

maybe interconnected).

Regarding claim 6. Murtagh teaching using IP to send and receive messages

(paragraph 0031).

Regarding claim 7. Ahn teaches the service center is a short message service

center (i.e. Ahn describes a short message service (SMS) of the roaming service where

the IRGS functions as the SMC/short message center --- col. 12 lines 39-42). Murtagh

also teaches SMS messaging (title, abstract) so as to provide SMS services to

subscribers of GSM network (paragraphs 0002 and 0031).

Regarding claim 8. Ahn teaches wherein the messages deliver services that are

provided by the first network that may not be provided by the second network (col. 1

lines 44-54). Murtagh also teaches the messages delivered by the first network that

may not be provided by the second network (paragraphs 0002 and 0031).

Regarding claim 9. Ahn teaches wherein the SMSC is configured to send and

receive SMS messages to validate a subscription in a network (i.e. Ahn describes a

short message service (SMS) of the roaming service where the IRGS functions as the

SMC/short message center --- col. 12 lines 39-42). Murtagh also teaches service

center/gateway mobile switching center uses SMS messages to validate subscribers

(paragraphs 0039-0041, 0047).

Regarding claim 10. Ahn teaches a general global gateway, between a first

network and a second network (see item 300 in figures 1 and 3 wherein a general

global gateway is located between a first and second network and used for

authenticating the mobile, which is currently registered to GSM network, but visiting a

CDMA system), configured to support communications between the first network and

the second network (see CDMA and GSM figure 1) to enable a mobile station

subscribed in the first network to communicate using the second network (title, abstract,

col. 2 lines 36 – 46, col. 3 lines 62-65, col. 4 lines 17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col. 6 lines

32-54, col. 12 lines 39-47), comprising:

means for storing an identity of the mobile station (see 300 figure 1, col. 2 lines

36-46, col. 3 lines 62-65, col. 4 lines 17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col. 6 lines 32-54, col. 12

lines 39-47); and

means for executing program logic to obtain authentication information from the

first network based on the identity of the mobile station (see 300 figure 1, col. 2 lines 36-

46, col. 3 lines 62-65, col. 4 lines 17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col. 6 lines 32-54, col. 12

lines 39-47) and determine whether authentication parameters from the MS satisfy

GGG authentication (see 300 figure 1, col. 2 lines 36-46, col. 3 lines 62-65, col. 4 lines

17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col. 6 lines 32-54, col. 12 lines 39-47).

According to Applicants, Ahn only shows a CDMA terminal with a GSM SIM card

to provide roaming access to a GSM service subscriber in the CDMA area but does not

show using the CDMA network for this purpose (see Applicants remark at the bottom of

page 7, paper dated 2/28/08).

Murtagh teaches using a virtual mobile node to allow CDMA operator the ability

to offer services to subscribers of GSM network (abstract, paragraphs 0002, 0031).

Murtagh teaches the virtual mobile node (see VM in figures 3 and 4) connected to an

iterworking gateway (see MAR in figure 3 and 4) wherein the virtual mobile node

contains both GSM HLR and MSC functions (see figures 3 and 4, paragraphs 0033 and

0041) which means that CDMA operator can offer services to subscribers of the GSM

network (paragraph 0033) and visa versa (paragraph 0034).

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

the invention was made to modify the gateway as taught by Ahn to include both GSM

HLR and MSC functions as taught by Murtagh in order to allow CDMA operators the

ability to offer its subscribers SMS messages from other mobile users equipped with

different technology handsets as taught by Murtagh (paragraph 0031).

Regarding claim 11. Ahn teaches means for storing a location of the MS to

enable a call incoming to the MS from the first network to route the incoming call to the

MS through the GGG (see 300 figure 1, col. 2 lines 36-46, col. 3 lines 62-65, col. 4 lines

17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col. 6 lines 32-54, col. 12 lines 39-47).). Murtagh also show

using location register so incoming calls from first network can be routed through the gateway (see VM and MAR in figures 3 and 4, paragraphs 0033 and 0041, see virtual mobile node item 22 in figure 4 containing location registers so GMS and CDMA maybe interconnected).

Regarding claim 13. Ahn teaches wherein the SMSC is configured to send and receive SMS messages to validate a subscription in a network (i.e. Ahn describes a short message service (SMS) of the roaming service where the IRGS functions as the SMC/short message center --- col. 12 lines 39-42). Murtagh also teaches service center/gateway mobile switching center uses SMS messages to validate subscribers (paragraphs 0039-0041, 0047).

Regarding claim 14. Ahn further shows a location register configured to store a location of the MS to enable a call incoming to the MS from the first network to route the incoming call to the MS through the GGG (see 300 figure 1, col. 2 lines 36-46, col. 3 lines 62-65, col. 4 lines 17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col. 6 lines 32-54, col. 12 lines 39-47). Murtagh also teaches using location registers (see paragraphs 0033 and 0041, see virtual mobile node item 22 in figure 4 containing location registers so GMS and CDMA maybe interconnected).

Method claim 15 is rejected for the same reasons as apparatus claim 1 since the recited apparatus would perform the claimed method steps.

Method claim 16 is rejected for the same reasons as apparatus claim 2 since the recited apparatus would perform the claimed method steps.

Regarding claim 18. Ahn teaches communicating directly from the MS to the first network after the MS has been authenticated (col. 2 lines 36-46).

Method claim 19 is rejected for the same reasons as apparatus claim 9 since the recited apparatus would perform the claimed method steps.

Method claim 20 is rejected for the same reasons as apparatus claim 2 since the recited apparatus would perform the claimed method steps.

Computer claim 21 is rejected for the same reasons as apparatus claim 1 and method claim 15 since the recited apparatus and method would perform the claimed program steps.

Regarding claim 22. Ahn teaches a processor (see processor 300 in figure 1 connecting to CDMA and GSM to enable a mobile station subscribed in the first network to communicate using the second network) comprising: a processing circuit configured to store an identity of the mobile station; obtain authentication information from the first network based on the identity of the mobile station; store the authentication information from the first network in a general global gateway (GGG), between a fist network and a second network (see item 300 in figures 1 and 3 wherein a general global gateway is located between a first and second network and used for authenticating the mobile, which is currently registered to GSM network, but visiting a CDMA system), for subsequent accesses by the mobile station; use the stored authentication information from the first network to authenticate the mobile station; and determine whether authentication parameters from the mobile station satisfy GGG authentication criteria

(see 300 figure 1, col. 2 lines 36-46, col. 3 lines 62-65, col. 4 lines 17-33, col. 5 lines 28-46, col. 6 lines 32-54, col. 12 lines 39-47).

According to Applicants, Ahn only shows a CDMA terminal with a GSM SIM card to provide roaming access to a GSM service subscriber in the CDMA area but does not show using the CDMA network for this purpose (see Applicants remark at the bottom of page 7, paper dated 2/28/08).

Murtagh teaches using a virtual mobile node to allow CDMA operator the ability to offer services to subscribers of GSM network (abstract, paragraphs 0002, 0031). Murtagh teaches the virtual mobile node (see VM in figures 3 and 4) connected to an iterworking gateway (see MAR in figure 3 and 4) wherein the virtual mobile node contains both GSM HLR and MSC functions (see figures 3 and 4, paragraphs 0033 and 0041) which means that CDMA operator can offer services to subscribers of the GSM network (paragraph 0033) and visa versa (paragraph 0034).

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify the gateway as taught by Ahn to include both GSM HLR and MSC functions as taught by Murtagh in order to allow CDMA operators the ability to offer its subscribers SMS messages from other mobile users equipped with different technology handsets as taught by Murtagh (paragraph 0031).

Response to Arguments

2.   Applicant's arguments filed 9/10/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

a) Applicants argue that Ahn does not teach the General Global Gateway

configured to support communications between a GSM (or first network) and CDMA (or

second network) to enable a mobile station subscribed in the GSM (or first) network to

communicate using the CDMA (or second) network (see Applicants argument starting

on page 7 and continuing to the top of page 9, paper dated 9/10/2008).

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain

features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies

(i.e.,"GSM" or "CDMA") are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are

interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into

the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

b) Next, Applicants argue that Ahn does not teach a General Global Gateway

connected between a first network and a second network (see bottom of page 9, paper

dated 9/10/2008).

The Examiner disagrees. Ahn clearly shows the gateway between a first network

and second network (see item 300 in figures 1 and 3) which is used for authenticating

the mobile, which is currently registered to GSM network, but visiting a CDMA system.

c) Applicants argue that Murtagh does not show gateway between a first

network and second network (see top of page 10, paper dated 9/10/2008).

The Examiner disagrees. Murtagh clearly shows the virtual mobile node

connected to an intermediary gateway (see MAR in figures 1 and 2, paragraph 0031

wherein the MAR functions as intermediary gateway that is clearly located between

CDMA operator and GSM operator, thereby allowing the CDMA operator to offer

services to subscribers of GSM network, see paragraphs 0040 and 0041 and figure 4

wherein virtual mobile node (item 22) and intermediary gateway (item 21) clearly

located between first and second networks).

d) Applicants argue that Ahn in view of Murtagh do not show a general global

gateway located between a first and second network to enable a mobile station

subscribed in a first network to communicate using the second network and where the

GGG obtains authentication information from the first network based on the identity of

the mobile station, stores the authentication information for subsequent accesses by the

mobile station and determines whether authentication parameters from the mobile

station satisfy GGG authentication criteria (see page 11, paper dated 9/10/2008).

The Examiner disagrees. Applicant's independent claims are extremely lacking.

What is the first network and second network? What are GGG authentication criteria?

Ahn figure 3 clearly shows the IRGS (i.e. GGG) used to authenticate a mobile (150),

which is currently registered to GSM network, but visiting a CDMA system. Next, the

IRGS authenticates the mobile by using the mobiles International Mobile Subscriber

Identity which clearly reads on GGG authentication criteria.

e) Applicants generally argue that Ahn in view of Murtagh do not show store the

authentication information for subsequent accesses by the mobile station (see bottom of

page 12 continuing to page 13, paper dated 9/10/2008).

The Examiner disagrees. Ahn clearly shows the IRGS functions as the HLR to

manage the profiles of the GSM SIM subscribers from the viewpoint of the CDMA

system and functions as the VLR in order for the GSM system to read the location of the roaming GSM SIM subscriber via the IRGS (col. 4 lines 34-39).

f) Applicants argue that Ahn only uses the IRGS to function as a visitor location register (see top of page 13, paper dated 9/10/2008).

The Examiner disagrees. Ahn clearly shows the IRGS functions as the HLR to manage the profiles of the GSM SIM subscribers from the viewpoint of the CDMA system and functions as the VLR in order for the GSM system to read the location of the roaming GSM SIM subscriber via the IRGS (col. 4 lines 34-39). Ahn teaches two different methods for location registration. The first uses the International Subscriber Identity number system used in the GSM system to access the CDMA system or uses the MIN in the CDMA system (col. 4 line 63 - col. 5 line 13).

g) Applicants argue that there is no reasonable expectation of success in combining the cited references (page 14, paper dated 9/10/2008).

The Examiner disagrees. Ahn clearly shows IRGS located between a first and second network and is used to manage profiles of the GSM SIM subscribers from the viewpoint of the CDMA system and functions as the VLR in order for the GSM system to read the location of the roaming SIM subscriber via the IRGS. In other words, Ahn only shows a CDMA terminal with a GSM SIM card to provide roaming access to a GSM service subscriber in the CDMA area but does not show using the CDMA network for this purpose.

Murtagh teaches using a virtual mobile node to allow CDMA operator the ability to offer services to subscribers of GSM network (abstract, paragraphs 0002, 0031).

Murtagh teaches the virtual mobile node (see VM in figures 3 and 4) connected to an

intermediary gateway (see MAR in figure 3 and 4) wherein the virtual mobile node

contains both GSM HLR and MSC functions (see figures 3 and 4, paragraphs 0033 and

0041) which means that CDMA operator can offer services to subscribers of the GSM

network (paragraph 0033) and visa versa (paragraph 0034).

It would have been obvious for any one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of

the invention was made to modify the gateway as taught by Ahn to include both GSM

HLR and MSC functions as taught by Murtagh in order to allow CDMA operators the

ability to offer its subscribers SMS messages from other mobile users equipped with

different technology handsets as taught by Murtagh (paragraph 0031).

h) Applicants argue that Ahn in view of Murtagh do not show using IP messages

(top of page 15, paper dated 9/10/2008).

The Examiner disagrees. Applicant's specification teaches any type of message

may be used (see Applicants specification paragraphs 0022, 0027 wherein protocol

simply depends on the protocol used by the service provider, and could even be a

public switched telephone network --- paragraph 0042).

Murtagh discloses IP network, or SS7 protocol (paragraph 0031) and even X.25

protocol (paragraph 0032).

I) Applicants argue that Ahn in view of Murtagh do not show the message deliver

services that are provided by the first network that may not be provided by the second

network (bottom page 15, paper dated 9/10/2008).

The Examiner disagrees. Ahn teaches a CDMA terminal with a GSM SIM card to provide roaming access to a GSM service subscriber in the CDMA area. Murtagh teaches CDMA operator offers services to subscribers of GSM network.

J) Applicants argue that Ahn in view of Murtagh do not show the IRGS functions as SMSC (bottom page 16, paper dated 9/10/2008).

The Examiner disagrees. Ahn col. 2 lines 34-45 reveals the IRGS function as SMSC for authentication. Murtagh also teaches SMSC access protocol (paragraphs 0039-0041, and 0047).

k) Applicants start repeating the argument that Ahn in view of Murtagh do not teach the General Global Gateway configured to support communications between a GSM (or first network) and CDMA (or second network) to enable a mobile station subscribed in the GSM (or first) network to communicate using the CDMA (or second) network (bottom page 17, paper dated 9/10/2008).

In response to applicant's argument that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e.,"GSM" or "CDMA") are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

Conclusion

3.   **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE

MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not

mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any

extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of

the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later

than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

4.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the
examiner should be directed to Barry W. Taylor, telephone number (571) 272-7509, who
is available Monday-Thursday, 6:30am to 5pm.
        If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's
supervisor, Dwayne Bost, can be reached at (571) 272-7023. The central facsimile phone
number for this group is **571-273-8300**.
        Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or
proceeding should be directed to the Group 2600 receptionist whose telephone number is
(571) 272-2600, the 2600 Customer Service telephone number is (571) 272-2600.
        Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the
Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for
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/Barry W Taylor/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2617